

Message Text

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43

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TAGS: PFOR PINT UR

SUBJ: TASS ANTI-SAKHAROV WRAP-UP

REF: MOSCOW 10732

1. IN WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED AS FINAL WRAP-UP IN CURRNT ROUND OF ANTI-SAKHAROV CAMPAIGN, ALL CENTRAL PAPERS SEPTEMBER 8 CARRIED TASS ARTICLE ENTITLED, "TO BE A SOVIET SCIENTIST IS TO BE A PARTRIOT." ARTICLE REPORTS MASSIVE RECEIPT OF LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS FROM SOVIET PEOPLE OF ALL PROFESSIONS CONSMNING AND EXPRESSING OUTRAGE WITH SAKHAROV'S "ANTI-PATRIOTIC BEHAVIOR," HIS ATTEMPTS TO "SLANDER" SOVIET SOCIAL SYSTEM AND FOREGIN AND DOMESTIC POLICIES, AND HIS "ANTI-SOVIET ACTIVITIES WHICH PLAY INTO QHE HANDS OF ENEMIES OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM," ARTICLE GOES ON TO QUOTE NUMEROUS LETTERS FROM AROUND COUNTRY CASTIGATING SAKHAROV.

2. NO FURTHER ANTI-SAKHAROV ARTICLES IN SUNDAY OR MONDAY PRESS, SUGGESTING REGIME DESIRE TO PHASE OUT CURRENT CAMPAIGN (REFTEL). WHILE AUTHORITIES MIGHT HOPE THAT SAKHAROV AND SOLZHENITSYN WOULD MERELY FADEMCWAY, NEITHER APPEARS WILLING TO BE SILENT, AS EVIDENCED BY SOLZHENITSYN'S REPORTED RECENT BLAST AT AUTHORITIES FOR ALLEGEDLY CONFISCATING MANUSCRIPT OF HIS BOOK AND CAUSING

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SUICIDE OF WOMAN IN LENINGRAD AND BY SAKHAROV'S SEPTEMBER 8

INTERVIEW WITH WESTERN JOURNALISTS IN WHICH HE SCORED SOVIET PRESS AND AUTHORITIES FOR DISTORTING HIS VIEWS. LATEST STATEMENTS ALREADY CIRCULATING VIA GRAPEVINE. EVEN IF REGIME HAS DECIDED TO SOFT-PEDAL PUBLIC ANTI-SAKHAROV CAMPAIGN FOR TIME BEING, CONTINUED STATEMENTS BY HIM TO PRESS MAY FORCE THE PACE. IN ANY CASE, THE DIFFICULT CHOICE BETWEEN DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN OBJECTIVES POSED BY SAKHAROV AND SOLZHENITSYN WILL NOT BE EASILY RESOLVED. WE EXPECT SOME FURTHER ACTION AGAINST THEM EVENTUALLY, BUT FOREIGN POLICY CONSIDERATIONS COULD AFFECT THE TIMING.
DUBS

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